

Lyons 12 mo 1st, 1859

Esteemed Friend

Maria W. Chapman

The encouragement which we have received from Boston has induced us to continue our preparations for holding a Fair at the usual time, ^{that is} on New Year's day. Be assured that we duly appreciate the interest which our Boston friends have manifested for our success in this undertaking. May you be rewarded tenfold! You ask us in what manner you can best aid us. We think it best to leave this to your own judgement; — but should we see any ^{particulars} way in which we may need your assistance, we will lose no time in informing you. As I said in my note to Deborah Henshaw, we think ^{cheap} Fancy articles & childrens toys will meet with the readiest sale in our market. We know of no clothing which will sell so quick as childrens hose & mittens. With regard to letters ~~we~~ I am authorized to say that the Society will gratefully receive as many as you choose to ^{send} ~~write~~. We have none on hand.

In behalf of the L. W. A. S. Society

Eliza Boyce Cor. Sec.

I have said thus much by order of the Board — I have now a few words to say on my own responsibility. It is indeed a dark hour with us. Were it not for a few individuals I believe the Society would long before this have ~~been~~ ~~utterly~~ disbanded. We have not to contend with that bitter sectarian spirit

which has so long tried the true-hearted ones in Boston, but tis a spirit of indifference — an apathy — a long and deep slumber into which the members of our society have fallen. They wish well to the cause & here ends the whole matter. They need some excitement — some stimulus to spur them up to the work. If thou & Lydia Maria Child and ~~any others~~ as many more as may choose to come, would meet our society and talk awhile with them, I think the effect would be salutary. We will call a special meeting and muster our ranks, if the thing be possible. I wish not to over-tax you — but as our good friend Abby Kelly ~~once~~ said to me, "I never hesitate to beg for the slave — I never pity a person because he has much to do in this cause." Should you conclude to meet our society let us know in season to notify the meeting. We generally notify our meetings through the pulpits — 'tis the best way we can reach the members; for this reason I would suggest that you come ~~on the first of~~ next week. However should it be more convenient for you to come this week, I will engage that the members shall be notified. I have consulted Abolition A. Chase and one other member of the Board — both agree with me in this plan.

Hoping thou wilt remain steadfast in every good word and work I remain thy fellow-laborer. Eliza Boyce

N. B. Let me hear from thee soon.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 12. 100
Eliza Boyce
1839.
Thine & Sister's
Ans.